

**REMARKS**

The application has been amended to insert the required reference to the parent application, for which benefit is claimed, of this new continuing application.

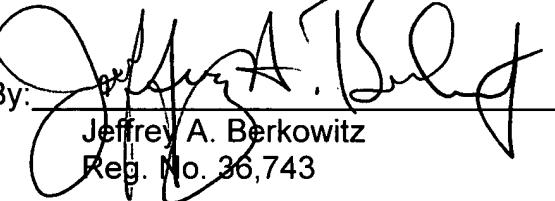
In the parent application, the Examiner allowed claims similar to those presented in this continuation following a protracted prosecution including an appeal. Applicants submit that the new claims presented in this application are distinguishable from the art applied by the Examiner in the parent application. Accordingly, immediate action and allowance of these new claims is requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 16, 2004

By:   
Jeffrey A. Berkowitz  
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